

From the desk of Livingston Davies

August 14, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
Attn: Thomas A. Dixon, Examiner, Art Unit 3629

Re: Continuation of Application number 09/305,021

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a new filing of a Continuation of the above-mentioned patent. That patent has been approved for issuance. Under separate cover, the applicant has paid the issuance fee and requested that the underlying patent be immediately issued. We expect the underlying patent to be issued. It is my understanding that this Continuation will not in any way affect the issuance of the underlying patent.


Along with this Continuation, please accept this correspondence as a preliminary amendment to the Continued application.

The attached contains the specification including all 27 claims as contained in the original application filed in April 1999. During prosecution of the original application, one new claim (number 28) was asserted. Please cancel all previous claims.

New claims are being asserted at this time. We have numbered them beginning with 29 in order to avoid confusion with the previously asserted and now canceled claims. Please add claims numbered 29-49 as shown in the attached document.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Livingston Davies